

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polynucleotide molecule encoding orbit or a homologue thereof, or a complement thereof.
2. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polynucleotide molecule according to claim 1 wherein said homologue is human orbit.
3. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polynucleotide molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polynucleotide[[s]] comprising the nucleotide sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 1, or the complement thereof[[.]];
 - (b) a polynucleotide[[s]] comprising a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set out in SEQ ID NO. 1, or a complement fragment thereof[[.]];
 - (c) a polynucleotide[[s]] comprising a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the complement of the nucleotide sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 1, or a complement fragment thereof[[.]];
 - (d) a polynucleotide[[s]] comprising a polynucleotide sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to the polynucleotide[[s]] defined in (a), (b) or (c), or a complement thereof.
4. **(Currently Amended)** A polynucleotide probe which comprises a fragment of at least 15 contiguous nucleotides of the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1-3, or a complement thereof.
5. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** An isolated polypeptide molecule which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 2 or a homologue, variant, derivative or fragment thereof.



6. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polynucleotide molecule encoding a polypeptide ~~according to claim 5~~ comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2, or a complement thereof.
7. **(Currently Amended)** A vector comprising a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3[[or]], 6 or 25.
8. **(Currently Amended)** An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3[[or]], 6 or 25, operably linked to a regulatory sequence capable of directing expression of said polynucleotide in a host cell.
9. **(Withdrawn)** An antibody capable of binding the polypeptide of SEQ ID. No. 2 or a fragment thereof.
10. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for detecting the presence or absence of a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3[[or]], 6 or 25 in a biological sample, comprising which comprises:
 - (a) bringing the biological sample containing DNA or RNA into contact with a probe which comprises a fragment of at least 15 contiguous nucleotides of the polynucleotide under hybridising conditions; and
 - (b) detecting any duplex formed between the probe and nucleic acid in the sample.
11. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for detecting a polypeptide which comprises the sequence set out in SEQ ID No. 2 or a fragment thereof present in a biological sample, comprising which comprises:
 - (a) providing an antibody capable of binding to the polypeptide or fragment thereof;
 - (b) incubating a biological sample with said antibody under conditions which allow for the formation of an antibody-antigen complex; and
 - (c) determining whether antibody-antigen complex comprising said antibody is formed.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 3[[or]], 6 or 25 for use in therapy.
13. **(Withdrawn)** A polypeptide according to claim 5 for use in therapy.
14. **(Withdrawn)** An antibody according to claim 9 for use in therapy.
15. **(Currently Amended)** A method of treating a tumour comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 3[[or]], 6 or 25.
16. **(Withdrawn)** A method of treating a tumour, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a polypeptide as defined in claim 5.
17. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method of treating a tumour, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of an antibody capable of binding to the polypeptide of claim 5 ~~as defined in claim 9.~~
- 18-19. **(Cancelled)**
20. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a substance capable of binding to the polypeptide of claim 5 ~~an orbit polypeptide or a homologue, derivative, variant or fragment thereof, which method comprises~~ comprising incubating the ~~orbit~~ polypeptide or homologue, derivative, variant or fragment thereof with a candidate substance under suitable conditions and determining whether the substance binds to the ~~orbit-polypeptide or homologue, derivative, variant or fragment thereof.~~
21. **(Cancelled)**
22. **(Withdrawn - Currently Amended)** A method of inhibiting mitosis, comprising exposing the substance of claim 20 to a cell. ~~substance according to claim 21 for use in a method of inhibiting mitosis.~~

23-24. **(Cancelled)**

25. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence having at least 75% identity to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

26. **(New)** A host cell comprising the vector of claim 8.